

REMARKS

In the Office Action, claims 1-5 were rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamakawa in view of admitted Prior Art.

The inventive features set forth in claim 1 are as follows:

- (a) the rotatable turn table is rotated with respect to the base so that the works stored in the work-storing pockets slide on the base; and
- (b) the entire portion of the base which comes in contact with the works is made of insulant material.

The advantages obtained by the above features are as follows:

Due to the above features, since the entire portion of the base which comes in contact with the works is made of insulant material, the insulant material portion is uniformly worn out as a whole during operation of the work transfer apparatus. Therefore, steps cannot be generated at the portion of the base which comes in contact with the works.

The Yamakawa patent discloses an electronic parts conveying apparatus including an upper plate 40 and a lower plate 41 (Figs. 7 and 8). However, the upper plate 40 of Yamakawa is not rotated with respect to the lower plate 41, and therefore the part

C does not slide on the lower plate 41. That is to say, the upper plate 40 is fitted with the lower plate 41 by using an adhesive or a screw, and therefore the upper plate 40 and lower plate 41 are rotated together (see column 7, lines 10-20 of the Yamakawa patent). Accordingly, the present invention is patentably distinguished over the Yamakawa patent and the prior art of record.

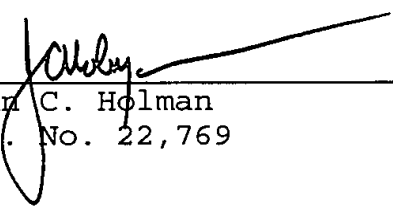
Based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the claims in the present application, as they now stand, patentably distinguish over the references cited and applied by the Examiner and are, therefore, in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance is in order, and such favorable action and reconsideration are respectfully requested.

However, if after reviewing the above amendments and remarks, the Examiner has any questions or comments, he is cordially invited to contact the undersigned attorneys.

Respectfully submitted,

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